

*MAK  
Grading*

# DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL SURVEY



PREPARED BY  
OVERVIEW  
COMMITTEE

DISTRICT COURT  
OF MARYLAND

NOVEMBER - 1979

*MD. JU 4. 2. DCT / 1979*



1. How long have you been a District Court judge?

- (21) 26.2% a) Less than 3 years  
 (16) 20.0% b) From 3 to 6 years  
 (43) 53.7% c) More than 6 years  
 (2) No Response

2. Rate the importance of each of the reasons below in your decision to become a District Court judge.

	Very Important	Important	Unimportant	No Res
2. No longer satisfied working as a lawyer	(13) <u>17.6%</u>	(15) <u>20.3%</u>	(46) <u>62.2%</u>	(8)
3. Desired to give service to the community	(26) <u>34.2%</u>	(44) <u>57.9%</u>	(6) <u>7.9%</u>	(6)
4. Provided upward mobility and professional accomplishment	(38) <u>49.4%</u>	(29) <u>37.7%</u>	(10) <u>13.0%</u>	(5)
5. Considered a stepping stone to the circuit court	(8) <u>11.3%</u>	(17) <u>23.9%</u>	(46) <u>64.8%</u>	(11)
6. Provided a stable income	(20) <u>27.0%</u>	(30) <u>40.5%</u>	(24) <u>32.4%</u>	(8)
7. Provided good retirement and fringe benefits	(37) <u>47.4%</u>	(33) <u>42.3%</u>	(8) <u>10.3%</u>	(4)
8. Other (specify): _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

9. In what type of practice were you engaged prior to becoming a District Court judge?

- (7) 8.5% a) Large firm (more than 10 attorneys)  
 (28) 34.1% b) Medium firm (from 5-10 attorneys)  
 (35) 42.7% c) Small firm (less than 5 attorneys)  
 (8) 9.8% d) Solo practitioner  
 (8) 9.8% e) Government Agency  
 (4) 4.9% f) Private firm or business  
 (4) 4.9% g) Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

10. How long were you a practicing lawyer before being appointed to the District Court?

- (8) 9.8% a) Less than 10 years  
 (29) 35.4% b) 11-15 years  
 (19) 23.2% c) 16-20 years  
 (13) 15.9% d) 21-25 years  
 (13) 15.9% e) Over 25 years

11. What is your present age?

- (11) 13.6%a) Under 45  
(41) 50.6%b) 45-55  
(17) 21.0%c) 56-62  
(12) 14.8%d) Over 62  
(1) Missing

12. In what area of the law were you primarily engaged prior to being appointed to the District Court?(Select One Response)

- (26) 35.6%a) Criminal  
(8) 11.0%b) Commercial  
(12) 16.4%c) Negligence  
(8) 11.0%d) Real Estate  
e) Corporate  
(4) 5.5%f) Taxation, Probate and Estate Planning  
g) Bankruptcy  
(15) 20.5%h) Other (specify):  
(9) Missing

13. When involved in litigation, how often did you appear before the following courts:

	(1) 0-10% of the time	(2) 11-25% of the time	(3) over 50% of the time
13. District Court	(20) <u>32.3%</u>	(18) <u>29.0%</u>	(24) <u>38.7%</u>
14. Circuit Court	(12) <u>15.8%</u>	(32) <u>42.1%</u>	(32) <u>42.1%</u>
15. Court of Special Appeals	(49) <u>87.5%</u>	(4) <u>7.1%</u>	(3) <u>5.4%</u>
16. Court of Appeals	(59) <u>90.8%</u>	(5) <u>7.7%</u>	(1) <u>1.5%</u>

17. Did you decrease your salary by becoming a District Court judge?

- (13) 16.0%a) Yes (between \$1,000 and \$5,000 per year)  
(16) 19.8%b) Yes (between \$5,000 and \$10,000 per year)  
(31) 38.3%c) Yes (over \$10,000 per year)  
(21) 25.9%d) No  
(1) Missing

18. Did you increase your salary by becoming a District Court judge? Yes (14) No (65)  
17.7% 82.3%

19. Does your spouse work? Yes (30) No (47) Missing (5)  
39% 61%

20. Have you decreased your weekly work hours by becoming a District Court judge?

- (7) 8.6%a) Yes (by 1-5 hours per week)  
(15) 18.5%b) Yes (by 6-10 hours per week)  
(29) 35.8%c) Yes (by 11+hours per week)  
(30) 37.0%d) No  
(1) Missing

21. How would you categorize any continuing judicial education you have received since being appointed to the court?

- (70) 89.7% a) Continuing judicial education provided needed information  
 (8) 10.3% b) Continuing judicial education did not provide needed information  
 (4) Missing

22. Are you given enough opportunity to engage in out-of-state continuing judicial education programs? Yes (15) No (64) Missing (3)  
 19% 81%

23. Do you feel that more "outside experts" should be brought in to take a teaching role in judicial education programs? Yes (47) No (32) Missing (3)  
 59.5% 40.5%

24. Are you active (i.e. attend 60% or more of the meetings) on committees of the District Court? Yes (64) No (15) Missing (3)  
 81% 19%

25. Are you active (i.e. attend 60% or more of the meetings) on committees of the Judicial Conference? Yes (61) No (19) Missing (2)  
 76.2% 23.7%

26. What is the status of your professional activities?

	(1)	(2)	(3)	
	Not a Member	Member (No committee work)	Member (committee work)	Missing Response
26. American Trial Lawyers Assoc.	(52) 89.7%	(6) 10.3%		(24)
27. Maryland State Bar Assoc.	(23) 30.7%	(42) 56.0%	(10) 13.3%	(7)
28. City/County Bar Assoc.	(12) 15.6%	(53) 68.8%	(12) 15.6%	(5)
29. American Judges Assoc.	(47) 77 %	(14) 23 %		(21)
30. American Bar Assoc.	(42) 64.6%	(23) 35.4%		(17)
31. American Judicature Society	(22) 66.7%	(11) 33.3%		(49)

32. How frequently do you engage in the following professional activities?

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Once per month	Once per six months	Once per year	Less than once per year
32. Engage in continuing legal education	(9) 11.7%	(44) 57.1%	(11) 14.3%	(13) 16.9%
33. Address non-judicial professional groups	(11) 14.5%	(26) 34.2%	(15) 19.7%	(24) 31.6%
34. Speak to students as a group (in court)	(14) 17.7%	(36) 45.6%	(18) 22.8%	(11) 13.9%
35. Speak to students as a group (out of court)	(10) 13.0%	(18) 23.4%	(13) 16.9%	(36) 46.8%

36. Are you provided with sufficient assistance of the following staff:

	(1) Assistance Adequate	(2) More Assistance Needed	Missing
36. Clerks	(1) 2.2%	(45) 97.8%	(36)
37. Secretaries	(34) 43.6%	(44) 56.4%	(4)
38. Administrative aides	(34) 47.2%	(38) 52.8%	(10)
39. Student interns	(22) 32.4%	(46) 67.6%	(14)
40. Security personnel	(38) 49.4%	(39) 50.6%	(5)

41. What is an appropriate ratio of law clerks to District Court judges in your district?

- (8) 10.3%  
 (16) 20.5% a) Law clerks not needed  
 (24) 30.8% b) 1 clerk for every 4 judges  
 (6) 7.7% c) 1 clerk for every 6 judges  
 (4) 5.1% d) 1 clerk for every 7 judges  
 (20) 25.6% e) Other (specify):  
 (4) Missing

42. Is your courtroom staff well-trained? Yes (66) 82.5% No (14) 17.5% Missing (2)

43. Is your non-courtroom staff well-trained? Yes (57) 72.2% No (22) 27.8% Missing (3)

44. Is your staff courteous to the public? Yes (70) 90.9% No (7) 9.1% Missing (5)

45. The following problems exist in some district courts. Please check whether they exist in your district.

	(1) Yes - in the main court facility only	(2) Yes- in the satellite courts only	(3) Yes- in both the main and satellite courts	Missing
45. Improperly cleaned facilities	(8) 20.5%	(12) 30.8%	(18) 46.2%	(1)
46. Failure to continuously operate recording machines	(4) 44.4%	-----	(5) 55.6%	(1)
47. Inadequate security for records	(13) 28.3%	(5) 10.9%	(28) 60.9%	(1)
48. Inadequate personal security	(14) 34.1%	(4) 9.8%	(23) 56.1%	(1)
49. Negligent service to bench (e.g. no water, pads, etc.)	(5) 27.8%	(1) 5.6%	(12) 66.7%	(1)
50. Inadequate personal privacy	(11) 26.2%	(12) 28.6%	(19) 45.2%	(1)
51. Distracting noise external to the courtroom	(12) 27.9%	(16) 37.2%	(15) 34.9%	(1)
52. Inadequate facilities for public observation	(6) 26.1%	(4) 17.4%	(13) 56.5%	(1)
53. Other (specify):				

54. Do you have adequate library facilities?

- (36) 43.9% a) Yes (in main court only)  
       b) Yes (in satellite court only)  
(5) 6.1% c) Yes (in both main and satellite courts)  
(41) 50 % d) No (not in either court)

55. If you answered question #54 in the negative, does the lack of library facilities prevent you from doing your job as you would like to do it?

- (33) 57.9% a) Yes  
     b) No - because I use a law school library.  
(16) 28.1% c) No - because I use Circuit Court or Supreme Bench Library.  
(8) 14.0% d) No - because I use library facilities not listed above.  
(25) Missing

56. Are accurate statistics kept in your court?

	(1) <u>Yes</u>	(2) <u>No</u>	<u>Missing</u>
56. Bench time statistics	(74) <u>92.5%</u>	(6) <u>7.5%</u>	(2)
57. No. of cases filed	(76) <u>98.7%</u>	(1) <u>1.3%</u>	(5)
58. No. of cases tried	(75) <u>97.4%</u>	(2) <u>2.6%</u>	(5)

59. Do you feel the Benchbook is adequate? Yes (65) No (15) Missing (2)  
81.3% 18.8%

60. If you answered question #59 in the negative, please list any changes you think are needed.

61. What is your average bench time per day?

- |                             |            |                                      |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
|                             | a) 1 hour  | (46) <u>59.7%</u> d) 4 hours         |
|                             | b) 2 hours | (15) <u>19.5%</u> e) 5 hours         |
| (9) <u>11.7%</u> c) 3 hours |            | (7) <u>9.1%</u> f) more than 5 hours |
|                             |            | (5) Missing                          |

62. What should be the average bench time per day?

- |                 |            |                   |                      |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| (1) <u>a)</u>   | 1 hour     | (56) <u>70.9%</u> | d) 4 hours           |
| (1) <u>1.3%</u> | b) 2 hours | (19) <u>24.1%</u> | e) 5 hours           |
| (1) <u>1.3%</u> | c) 3 hours | (2) <u>2.5%</u>   | f) more than 5 hours |
|                 |            | (3)               | Missing              |

63. Do you feel that defense attorneys (including public defenders) appearing before you in District Court usually:

(1)  
YES

(2)  
NO

MISSING

63. Show proper respect for the bench

(72) 90 %

(8) 10 %

(2)

64. If "no" for #63, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

65. Are prepared for trial

(45) 56.3 %

(35) 43.8 %

(2)

66. If "no" for #65, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

67. Appear on time

(58) 74.4 %

(20) 25.6 %

(4)

68. If "no" for #67, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

69. Appear in appropriate attire

(78) 96.3 %

(3) 3.7 %

(1)

70. If "no" for #69, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

71. Are adequately trained

(61) 76.2 %

(19) 23.7 %

(2)

72. If "no" for #71, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



73. Do you take action on defense attorneys who:

	(1) Not a problem in my court	(2) No action taken when a problem	(3) Action Taken when a problem	Miss
73. Do not show proper respect for the bench	(47) 60.3%	(3) 3.8%	(28) 35.9%	(4)
74. Describe action taken in #73, if any:				
75. Are not prepared for trial	(30) 37.5%	(25) 31.3%	(25) 31.3%	(2)
76. Describe action taken in #75, if any:				
77. Do not appear on time	(37) 45.7%	(3) 3.7%	(41) 50.6%	(1)
78. Describe action taken in #77, if any:				
79. Do not appear in appropriate attire	(70) 88.6%	(3) 3.8%	(6) 7.6%	(3)
80. Describe action taken in #79, if any:				
81. Are not well-trained	(46) 57.5%	(23) 28.7%	(11) 13.7%	(2)
82. Describe action taken in #81, if any:				

83. How do you rate the Public Defender and his staff in your district?

(18) 22.5%a) Excellent

(37) 46.2%b) Very good

(20) 25.0%c) Good

(5) 6.3%d) Poor

(2) Missing

84. Is an assistant public defender present in every criminal and traffic case in your district where there is a possibility of incarceration (and the defendant is indigent)?

(59) 72.8%a) Yes

(22) 27.2%b) No

(1) Missing

85. If you answered question #84 in the negative, please give reason:

---

86. How do you rate the State's Attorney and his staff in your district?

(13) 16.2%a) Excellent

(36) 45.0%b) Very Good

(24) 30.0%c) Good

(7) 8.7%d) Poor

(2) Missing

87. Do you feel that state's attorneys appearing before you in District Court usually:

	(1) YES	(2) NO	Missing
87. Show proper respect for the bench	(81) 98.8%	(1) 1.2%	_____
88. If "no" for #87, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
89. Are prepared for trial	(49) 63.6%	(28) 36.4%	(5)
90. If "no" for #89, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
91. Appear on time	(67) 81.7%	(15) 18.3%	_____
92. If "no" for #91, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
93. Appear in appropriate attire	(81) 98.8%	(1) 1.2%	_____
94. If "no" for 93, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
95. Are adequately trained	(65) 81.3%	(15) 18.8%	(2)
96. If "no" for #95, give reason: _____ _____ _____			

97. Do you take action on state's attorneys who:

	(1)	(2)	(3)	Mis sin
	Not a problem in my court	No action taken when a problem	Action taken when a problem	
97. Do not show proper respect for the bench	(68) <u>85</u> %	<u>      </u>	(12) <u>15</u> %	(2)
98. Describe action taken in #97, if any : _____ _____				
99. Are not prepared for trial	(42) <u>53.2</u> %	(14) <u>17.7</u> %	(23) <u>29.1</u> %	(3)
100. Describe action taken in # 99, if any: _____ _____ _____				
101. Do not appear on time	(56) <u>70.9</u> %	(3) <u>3.8</u> %	(20) <u>25.3</u> %	(3)
102. Describe action taken in #101, if any: _____ _____ _____				
103. Do not appear in appropriate attire	(77) <u>95.1</u> %	(1) <u>1.2</u> %	(3) <u>3.7</u> %	(1)
104. Describe action taken in #103, if any: _____ _____ _____				
105. Are not well-trained	(60) <u>75.9</u> %	(7) <u>8.9</u> %	(12) <u>15.2</u> %	(3)
106. Describe action taken in #105, if any: _____ _____ _____				

107. Do you feel that the state's attorneys appearing before you in District Court:

(1)  
YES

(2)  
NO

Missing

107. Use the court for screening purposes  
to ascertain the "worth" of a case?

(14) 17.9% (64) 82.1% (4)

108. If "yes" for #107, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

109. Try a case in District Court he/she  
would not try in the Circuit Court  
(not withstanding concurrent jurisdiction)?

(36) 45% (44) 55% (2)

110. If "yes" for #109, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

111. Take a case to Circuit Court for trial  
that is routinely filed in District Court?

(9) 11.4% (70) 88.6% (3)

112. If "yes" for #111, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

113. Is a state's attorney present in every criminal and traffic case in your  
district where there is a possibility of incarceration? Yes (56) No (26)  
68.3% 31.7%

114. If you answered question #113 in the negative, please give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

115.

How does the treatment accorded the District Court and its clientele by the following groups compare to that given the Circuit Court and its clientele?

	(1) Same	(2) Different	Missing
115. Local health departments	(69) 89.6%	(8) 10.4%	(5)
116. If "different" for #115, give reason:			
117. Probation Department	(64) 81 %	(15) 19 %	(3)
118. If "different" for #117, give reason:			
119. State Department of Parole and Probation	(66) 85.7%	(11) 14.3%	(5)
120. If "different" for #119, give reason:			
121. Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	(67) 87 %	(10) 13 %	(5)
122. If "different" for #121, give reason:			
123. State Department of Corrections	(69) 90.8%	(7) 9.2%	(6)
124. If "different" for #123, give reason:			

125. How does the treatment accorded the District Court and its clientele by  
(Cont'd) the following groups compare to that given the Circuit Court and its  
clientele?

	(1) <u>Same</u>	(2) <u>Different</u>	<u>Missing</u>
125. Local Department of Corrections	(69) <u>92.0%</u>	(6) <u>8.0%</u>	(7)

126. If "different" for #125, give reason:

---

---

---

127. Public Defender	(54) <u>70.1%</u>	(23) <u>29.9%</u>	(5)
----------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-----

128. If "different" for #127, give reason:

---

---

---

129. State's Attorney	(48) <u>62.3%</u>	(29) <u>37.7%</u>	(5)
-----------------------	-------------------	-------------------	-----

130. If "different" for #129, give reason:

---

---

---

131. How long does it take to receive a pre-sentence investigation (PSI) report in your district?

(16) 19.5% a) less than 30 days

(57) 69.5% b) 31-60 days

(7) 8.5% c) 61-90 days

(2) 2.4% d) more than 90 days

132. Are the following staff adequately trained in your district?

	(1) <u>YES</u>	(2) <u>NO</u>	<u>Missing</u>
132. Sheriffs	(52) <u>81.3%</u>	(12) <u>18.8%</u>	(18)
133. Constables	(41) <u>77.4%</u>	(12) <u>22.6%</u>	(29)
134. Probation personnel	(68) <u>88.3%</u>	(9) <u>11.7%</u>	(5)



135. Do the sheriffs or constables in your district perform adequately in the courtroom as far as the following are concerned?

	(1) <u>YES</u>	(2) <u>NO</u>	<u>Missing</u>
135. Security	(53) 73.6%	(19) 26.4%	(10)
136. If "no" to #135, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
137. Keep public awake	(60) 85.7%	(10) 14.3%	(12)
138. If "no" to #137, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
139. Keep love affairs to a minimum	(60) 92.3%	(5) 7.7%	(17)
140. If "no" to #139, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
141. Prevent eating	(63) 94 %	(4) 6 %	(15)
142. If "no" to #141, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
143. Prevent the reading of newspapers	(63) 92.6%	(5) 7.4%	(14)
144. If "no" to #143, give reason: _____ _____ _____			
145. Enforce a reasonable dress code	(42) 61.8%	(26) 38.2%	(14)
146. If "no" to #145, give reason: _____ _____ _____			

147. Are there any court personnel whose work relates directly to your own, over whom you feel you would like more control?

	(1) <u>YES</u>	(2) <u>NO</u>	<u>Missing</u>
147. Constables	(6) <u>10.2%</u>	(53) <u>89.8%</u>	(23)
148. Sheriffs	(4) <u>5.7%</u>	(66) <u>94.3%</u>	(12)
149. Police	(10) <u>13.3%</u>	(65) <u>86.7%</u>	(7)
150. State's Attorney	(13) <u>16.7%</u>	(65) <u>83.3%</u>	(4)
151. Public Defender	(12) <u>15.6%</u>	(65) <u>84.4%</u>	(5)
152. Probation Officers	(12) <u>15.6%</u>	(65) <u>84.4%</u>	(5)
153. Other (specify) _____	(7) <u>70 %</u>	(3) <u>30 %</u>	(72)
_____	_____	_____	
_____	_____	_____	

154. Do you feel that the jurisdiction of the District Court in the following case types should be:

	(1) <u>Maintained</u>	(2) <u>Increased</u>	(3) <u>Decreased</u>	<u>Missing</u>
154. Civil	(19) <u>23.2%</u>	(63) <u>76.8%</u>	_____	_____
155. Small Claims	(33) <u>40.2%</u>	(46) <u>56.1%</u>	(3) <u>3.7%</u>	_____
156. Criminal	(26) <u>32.1%</u>	(54) <u>66.7%</u>	(1) <u>1.2%</u>	(1)
157. Traffic	(32) <u>39.5%</u>	(2) <u>2.5%</u>	(47) <u>58.0%</u>	(1)

158. If you answered question #154 (Civil) to increase jurisdiction, should it be accompanied by:

	(1) <u>YES</u>	(2) <u>NO</u>	<u>Missing</u>
158. Broader discovery, only with leave of court	(32) <u>66.7%</u>	(16) <u>33.3%</u>	(34)
159. Same discovery as in Md. Rules	(32) <u>58.2%</u>	(23) <u>41.8%</u>	(27)

160. If you answered question #156 (Criminal) to increase jurisdiction, should it be accompanied by:

(1)  
YES

(2)  
NO

Missing

160. Broader discovery, only with leave of court

(25) 58.1% (18) 41.9% (39)

161. Same discovery as in Md. Rules

(35) 67.3% (17) 32.7% (30)

162. If you answered question #154 (Civil) to increase jurisdiction, what should civil limits be raised to?

(1) 1.6% a) \$7,500

(30) 46.9% b) \$10,000

(15) 23.4% c) \$15,000

(18) 28.1% d) over \$15,000

(18) Missing  
163. If you answered question #155 (Small Claims) to increase jurisdiction, what should new small claims limits be raised to?

(2) 4.1% a) \$750

(32) 65.3% b) \$1000

(8) 16.3% c) \$1500

(7) 14.3% d) over \$1500

(33) Missing  
164. If you answered question #156 (Criminal) to increase jurisdiction, what should the new jurisdiction encompass?

---

---

---

165. What is the appropriate number of persons on a District Court jury?

(69) 90.8% a) 6 person jurors

(1) 1.3% b) 8 person jurors

\_\_\_\_\_ c) 10 person jurors

(6) 7.9% d) 12 person jurors

(6) Missing

166. Should minor (non-incarcerable) traffic offenses be handled by the Motor Vehicle Administration or some other administrative agency?

(21) 26.6%a) No

(3) 3.8%b) Yes (with no appeal)

(54) 68.4%c) Yes (with right of appeal of District Court)

(1) 1.3%d) Yes (with right of appeal to Circuit Court)

\_\_\_\_\_e) Yes (with right of appeal to other court or agency) (Specify): \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Missing

167. How much do you travel per week in your capacity as a judge, (do not include to and from court in your district):

(50) 63.3%a) Less than 20 miles per week

(11) 13.9%b) 20-50 miles per week

(10) 12.7%c) 51-100 miles per week

(2) 2.5%d) 101-150 miles per week

(3) 3.8%e) 151-200 miles per week

(3) 3.8%f) More than 200 miles per week

(3) Missing

168. When you were appointed a judge of the District Court did you anticipate the amount of travel required (other than travel in your district)?

(28) 34.1%a) Yes

(20) 24.4%b) No - thought there would be less travel

(1) 1.2%c) No - though there would be more travel

(33) 40.2%d) Had no idea of travel required

169. How frequently have your trips to other district courts been unnecessary?

(53) 66.2%a) Less than 5% of the trips

(7) 8.7%b) Anywhere from 6% to 25% of the trips

(9) 11.2%c) From 26% to 50% of the trips

(11) 13.7%d) More than 50% of the trips

(2) Missing

170.

If your answer to question #169 was (c) or (d), unnecessary trips more than 25% of the time, what do you feel is the primary reason for this?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

171.

Are you satisfied with:

(1)  
YES(2)  
NO

Missing

171. The amount of leave you receive each year? (79) 96.3% (3) 3.7% ---

172. If "no" to #171, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

173. The time constraints under which leave has to be requested?

(43) 52.4% (39) 47.6% ---

174. If "no" to #172, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

175. Having to file a financial statement every year?

(53) 65.4% (28) 34.6% ---

176. If "no" to #175, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

177. The amount of clerical work you are called upon to do?

(60) 73.2% (22) 26.8% ---

178. If "no" to #177, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

179. Are you satisfied with:  
(Cont'd)

(1)  
YES

(2)  
NO

Missing

179. The amount of handwriting you are required to do while on the bench?

(57) 69.5% (25) 30.5% —

180. If "no" to #179, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

181. The distribution of the workload among the judges in your district?

(68) 84 % (13) 16 % (1) —

182. If "no" to #181, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

183. What facet of District Court work do you like the most? (Select One Response)

(1) 1.3% a) Bonds

\_\_\_\_\_ e) Landlord/Tenant

(3) 3.9% b) Traffic

(40) 48.8% f) Criminal

(31) 40.3% c) Civil (over \$500)

\_\_\_\_\_ g) Motions

\_\_\_\_\_ d) Small Claims

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ h) Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

184. What facet of District Court work do you like the least? (Select One Response)

(4) 5.1% a) Bonds

(21) 26.6% e) Landlord/Tenant

(36) 45.6% b) Traffic

\_\_\_\_\_ f) Criminal

(6) 7.6% c) Civil (over \$500)

(1) 1.3% g) Motions

(7) 8.9% d) Small Claims

(4) 5.1% h) Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

(9) Missing

185. Have you been generally satisfied as a District Court Judge? Yes (79) 98.7% No (1) 1.2%  
Missing (2)

186. If you answered question #185 in the affirmative, what is your greatest source of satisfaction?

---

---

---

---

187. If you answered question #185 in the negative, what is your greatest source of dissatisfaction?

---

---

---

---

188. Would you like to see all satellite courts in the District merged into one location? Yes (51) No (25) Missing (6)

67.1% 32.9%

189. If your answer to question #188 was affirmative, in what ways would the merger be beneficial to:

Reason Beneficial

189. The Public (exclusive of litigants):

190. Litigants

191. Witnesses

192. Police Officers

193. Defense Attorneys

194. Prosecuting Attorneys

195. Judges

196. Other (specify):

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

197. If your answer to question #188 was negative, in what ways are the satellite courts beneficial to:

Reason Beneficial

197. The Public (exclusive of litigants): \_\_\_\_\_
198. Litigants \_\_\_\_\_
199. Witnesses \_\_\_\_\_
200. Police Officers \_\_\_\_\_
201. Defense Attorneys \_\_\_\_\_
202. Prosecuting Attorneys \_\_\_\_\_
203. Judges \_\_\_\_\_
204. Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

205. Are you in favor of vertical unification (i.e. one trial court)?

Yes (64) No (15) Missing (3)  
81% 19%

206. Who do you feel should hear appeals de novo from the District Court?

- (15) 20.3% a) Panel of Three District Court Judges
- (18) 24.3% b) District Court Jury of Six Persons
- (29) 39.2% c) One Circuit Court Judge
- (1) 1.4% d) Panel of Three Circuit Court Judges
- e) MD. Court of Special Appeals
- (2) 2.7% f) MD. Court of Appeals
- (9) 12.2% g) Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- (8) Missing \_\_\_\_\_

209. Who do you feel should hear appeals on the record from the District Court?

- (56) 68.3% a) One Circuit Court Judge
- (10) 12.2% b) Panel of 3 Circuit Court Judges
- (12) 14.6% c) MD. Court of Special Appeals
- (1) 1.2% d) MD. Court of Appeals
- (3) 3.7% e) Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

208. Are your sentencing practices affected in any way by appeal de novo?

Yes (15) No (66) Missing (1)  
18.5% 81.5%



209. If you answered question #208 in the affirmative, please explain.

---

---

---

---

210. Are you in favor of split dockets (i.e. litigants are directed to appear in court at specified times - such as traffic day court would be held at 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm)? Yes (57) No (25)  
69.5% 30.5%

211. If you answered question #210 in the affirmative, please give main reason(s).

---

---

---

---

212. If you answered question #210 in the negative, please give main reason(s).

---

---

---

---

213. Does the Circuit Court in your district take its turn in handling EAP, and warrant duty? Yes (51) No (28) Missing (3)  
64.6% 35.4%

214. If your answer to question #213 is negative, would you like to see the Circuit Court take their turn handling EAP and warrant duty? Yes (22) No (5) Missing (3)  
81.5% 18.5%

215. Does your district utilize commissioners to conduct supplementary procedures? Yes (30) No (51) Missing (1)  
37% 63%

216. Does your district utilize commissioners to conduct preliminary inquiries (i.e. securing counsel)? Yes (37) No (42) Missing (3)  
46.8% 53.2%

217. Would you want the District Court to use hearing officers in minor traffic cases? Yes (45) No (36) Missing (1)  
55.6% 44.4%

218. In your district, what backlog (i.e. delay between time a case is ready for trial and the time at which it is tried) exists for the following case types:

		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
		1	2-3	4-6	7-12	over 12	Missing
		month	months	months	months	months	
218. Criminal Cases	(36)	48.6%	(36) 48.6%	(2) 2.7%			(8)
219. Traffic Cases with a penalty of possible incarceration	(41)	55.4%	(23) 31.1%	(8) 10.8%	(2) 2.7%		(8)
220. Other Traffic Cases	(48)	70.1%	(16) 23.5%	(3) 4.4%	(1) 1.5%		(14)
221. Regular Civil Cases	(23)	31.5%	(35) 47.9%	(14) 19.2%	(1) 1.4%		(9)
222. Small Claims	(26)	36.1%	(36) 50 %	(10) 13.9%			(10)

223. Are you satisfied with the District Court Rules? Yes (66) No. (16)  
80.5% 19.5%

224. If your answer to question #223 is negative, what is the main source of your dissatisfaction?

---



---



---



---

225. How frequently do you start your court late when hearing the following matters:

		(1)	(2)	(3)	
		Rarely (Less than 10%)	Occasionally (11-25%)	Frequently (Over 25%)	Missing
225. Criminal Cases	(70)	85.4%	(3) 3.7%	(9) 11.0%	
226. Traffic Cases with a penalty of possible incarceration	(71)	88.7%	(4) 5.0%	(5) 6.3%	(2)
227. Other Traffic Cases	(79)	97.5%	(2) 2.5%		(1)
228. Regular Civil Cases	(75)	93.8%	(4) 5.0%	(1) 1.2%	(2)
229. Small Claims	(75)	93.8%	(4) 5.0%	(1) 1.2%	(2)

230. What is the cause of starting court late "Frequently" in the responses given to questions # 225-229?

Cause of "Frequently"

230. Criminal Cases:

231. Traffic Cases with a penalty of possible incarceration:

232. Other Traffic Cases:

233. Regular Civil Cases:

234. Small Claims:

235. In what percentage of cases that you handle does a party represent him/herself?

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
	0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	over 50%	
	of cases	of cases	of cases	of cases	Missing
235. Criminal Cases	(51) 62.2%	(25) 30.5%	(6) 7.3%	-----	---
236. Traffic Cases with a penalty of possible incarceration	(43) 53.1%	(23) 28.4%	(13) 16.0%	(2) 2.5%	(1)
237. Other Traffic Cases	(4) 5.1%	(1) 1.3%	(2) 2.6%	(71) 91.0%	(4)
238. Regular Civil Cases	(30) 38 %	(27) 34.2%	(18) 22.8%	(4) 5.1%	(3)
239. Small Claims	(6) 7.5%	(6) 7.5%	(14) 17.5%	(54) 67.5%	(2)

240. Does your district use any of the following as pre-trial diversion programs?

	(1) <u>Yes</u>	(2) <u>No</u>	<u>Missing</u>
240. Park Work Programs	(14) <u>19.7%</u>	(57) <u>80.3%</u>	(11)
241. Alternative Community Services	(22) <u>29.7%</u>	(52) <u>70.3%</u>	(8)
242. Alcohol Counseling Services (DWI School)	(46) <u>59.7%</u>	(31) <u>40.3%</u>	(5)
243. Traffic School	(24) <u>33.3%</u>	(48) <u>66.7%</u>	(10)
244. Drug Abuse Programs	(42) <u>56 %</u>	(33) <u>44 %</u>	(7)
245. Other (specify): _____	_____	_____	

246. Does your district use any of the following as alternatives to incarceration?

	(1) <u>Yes</u>	(2) <u>No</u>	<u>Missing</u>
246. Park Work Programs	(31) <u>44.9%</u>	(38) <u>55.1%</u>	(13)
247. Alternative Community Services	(45) <u>60.8%</u>	(29) <u>39.2%</u>	(8)
248. Alcohol Counseling Services (DWI School)	(71) <u>88.7%</u>	(9) <u>11.2%</u>	(2)
249. Traffic School	(57) <u>79.2%</u>	(15) <u>20.8%</u>	(10)
250. Drug Abuse Programs	(67) <u>85.9%</u>	(11) <u>14.1%</u>	(4)
251. Other (specify): _____	_____	_____	

252. Have any abuses in the organization or operation of the following pre-trial diversion programs come to your attention?

	(1) <u>No Program like this.</u>	(2) <u>Have Program - No abuse comes to mind.</u>	(3) <u>Have Program and abuses heard about.</u>
252. Park Work Programs	(35) <u>59.3%</u>	(21) <u>35.6%</u>	(3) <u>5.1%</u>
253. Alternative Community Services	(26) <u>43.3%</u>	(30) <u>50.0%</u>	(4) <u>6.7%</u>
254. Alcohol Counseling Services (DWI School)	(17) <u>26.6%</u>	(38) <u>59.4%</u>	(9) <u>14.1%</u>
255. Traffic School	(25) <u>39.7%</u>	(30) <u>47.6%</u>	(8) <u>12.7%</u>
256. Drug Abuse Programs	(18) <u>27.7%</u>	(33) <u>50.8%</u>	(14) <u>21.5%</u>
257. Other (specify): _____	_____	_____	_____

258 Have any abuses in the organization or operation of the following alternatives to incarceration come to your attention?

	(1) No Program like this.	(2) Have Program - No abuse comes to mind.	(3) Have Program Abuses heard about.
258. Park Work Programs	(34) 53.1%	(26) 40.6%	(4) 6.3%
259. Alternative Community Services	(23) 34.3%	(39) 58.2%	(5) 7.5%
260. Alcohol Counseling Services (DWI School)	(2) 2.9%	(57) 81.4%	(11) 15.7%
261. Traffic School	(8) 11.8%	(52) 76.5%	(8) 11.8%
262. Drug Abuse Programs	(5) 7.1%	(50) 71.4%	(15) 21.4%
263. Other (specify): _____	_____	_____	_____

264. To your knowledge, are there any plea bargaining abuses in your district?

Yes (20) No (57) Missing (5)  
26% 74%

265. Please describe plea bargaining abuses you have observed.

---



---



---



---

266. Does your State's Attorney have witness coordinators to keep witnesses "on call" and avoid needless trips to court? Yes (21) No (58) Missing (3)  
26.6% 73.4%

267. Are "stand up trials" held by any judges in your district in the following types of cases?

	(1) YES	(2) NO	Missing
267. Criminal Cases	(20) 24.4%	(61) 74.4%	(1)

268. If "yes" to #267, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_

---



---

continued

(1)  
YES

(2)  
NO

Missing

269. Traffic Cases with a penalty of possible incarceration

(13) 16.2% (67) 83.7% (2)

270. If yes to #269, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

271. Other Traffic Cases

(34) 42.5% (46) 57.5% (2)

272. If yes to #271, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

273. Regular Civil Cases

(4) 5% (76) 95% (2)

274. If yes to #273, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

275. Small Claims

(10) 12.5% (70) 87.5% (2)

276. If yes to #275, give reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

277. With what frequency is Article 27-641 used for regular criminal cases in your district?

- (5) 6.5% a) Rarely used  
(19) 24.7% b) Used 5-10% of the time  
(28) 36.4% c) Used 11-25% of the time  
(22) 28.6% d) Used 26-50% of the time  
(3) 3.9% e) Used 51-75% of the time  
----- f) Used 76-100% of the time  
(5) Missing

278. With what frequency is Article 27-641 used for traffic cases in your district?

- (9) 11.4%a) Rarely used  
(19) 24.1%b) Used 5-10% of the time  
(25) 31.6%c) Used 11-25% of the time  
(19) 24.1%d) Used 26-50% of the time  
(6) 7.6%e) Used 51-75% of the time  
(1) 1.3%f) Used 76-100% of the time  
(3) Missing

279. With what frequency is Article 27-292 used in your district?

- (10) 12.7%a) Rarely used  
(13) 16.5%b) Used 5-10% of the time  
(21) 26.6%c) Used 11-25% of the time  
(19) 24.1%d) Used 26-50% of the time  
(11) 13.9%e) Used 51-75% of the time  
(5) 6.3%f) Used 76-100% of the time  
(3) Missing

280. What is your opinion of the administration of the District Court on a statewide level?

- (24) 30.0%a) Excellent  
(33) 41.2%b) Very Good  
(22) 27.5%c) Adequate  
(1) 1.2%d) Poor  
(2) Missing

281. If your response to question #280 is "poor", what is the major reason?

---

---

---

---

282. Are you satisfied with the job performed by the Administrative Judge of your court? Yes (70) No (8) Missing (4)  
89.7% 10.3%

283. If you answered question #282 in the negative, please list some of the reasons for your answer.

---

---

---

---

284. Do you have bench meetings? Yes (74) No (7) Missing (1)  
91.4% 8.6%

285. How frequently are your bench meetings held?

(15) 21.7%a) Less than 1/2 day per month (specify hours \_\_\_\_\_)

(13) 18.8%b) One half day per month

(15) 21.7%c) One day per month

(26) 37.7%d) Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

(13) \_\_\_\_\_ Missing

286. What do you think of the work performed by the State Administrative Office of the Courts?

(26) 32.5%a) Excellent

(33) 41.2%b) Very Good

(21) 26.2%c) Adequate

\_\_\_\_\_ d) Poor

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ Missing

287. If your response to question #286 is "poor", what are the major reasons?

---

---

---

---

288. Do you feel that the Maryland judiciary needs a public information officer?

Yes (50) No (29) Missing (3)

63.3%

36.7%

289. Most recent polls indicate that the Md. judiciary is held in low esteem by the public. If you disagree with this statement, please state your reasons.

---

---

---

---

290. Should there be juries in the District Court for civil cases? Yes (44) No (36) Missing ( )

55%

45%

291. Should there be juries in the District Court for serious traffic cases? Yes (43) No (38)

53.1%

46.9%

292. Should there be juries in the District Court for criminal cases? Yes (53) No (28) Missing ( )

65.4%

34.6%

Missing

Thank you for your cooperation. On the whole, do you think the questions asked were worthwhile?

Yes (78) Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

No (1) Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Missing (3)



APPENDIX A

Q. 60      Changes Needed in the Benchbook.

- 0    The number of subjects covered should be increased.
- 0    Should have more substance.
- 0    Should be more concise.
- 0    Needs to be updated.
- 0    "Just simply don't use it"
- 0    Need a quick complete visual book on each bench.  
Recommend the adoption of the Florida Bench Book.
- 0    Additional civil court material.
- 0    Enlarge it. Need more jury instruction.
- 0    Need a section for new judges (a new judges check list). Should be a separate District Court and Circuit Court Bench Book, and the material expanded for each.

Q. 64      Reason defense attorneys do not show proper respect for the bench.

- 0    Right of de novo appeal.
- 0    Lack of proper facilities.
- 0    Young lawyers treat the profession as a job rather than a "noble calling"--reflection in dress, attitude, etc.
- 0    Do not stand when they object; stay outside and joke rather than wait in court.
- 0    Press of business; attitude of the quality of bench; trial de novo appeal.
- 0    Feel District Court does not require the same standard as Circuit Court.
- 0    A great many ignore time--talk in court. Some are unprepared.

Q. 65      Reasons why defense attorneys are not prepared for trial.

- 0    Can always appeal.
- 0    Most try cases by the "seat of their britches"

Q. 65      Continued

- 0    No time to prepare.
- 0    Attitude that District Court is not as important as Circuit Court; inexperienced as attorney or public defender.
- 0    Lazy.
- 0    Many see client or witness in lobby not before.
- 0    Attorneys do not feel that District Court cases are important. Have right to de novo trial, can then prepare.
- 0    Not prepared to argue the law; not familiar with Rules.
- 0    Trial de novo.
- 0    Some should have never been admitted.
- 0    Do not meet with clients and State's Attorney in advance.
- 0    Inadequate preparation of law, facts, and personal background of defendant for sentencing.
- 0    Do not take time to know facts of their case and the law that applies.
- 0    Lack of training, preparation, and knowledge of District Court procedures.
- 0    Not compensated sufficiently and cases do not warrant substantial fees.
- 0    State tries to interview witness on trial date or wing it without interview.
- 0    Staff public defenders do not adequately prepare cases.
- 0    No pride; lack of research--wait for trial date to prepare.
- 0    Most will plea bargain or if forced to try a contested case will do a job that rates from poor to adequate.
- 0    Lack of knowledge of facts of case, points of law.
- 0    Necessary witnesses aren't summoned, not interviewed before trial.
- 0    Feel they have second chance (de novo appeal).

Q. 65 Continued

- O Volume of workload and indifference toward their role.
- O Failure to talk to witnesses prior to trial.
- O Public defender staff inadequate for caseload.
- O Public defenders have lack of pre-trial with defendants and witnesses.
- O Do not see case until day of trial.
- O Lack of time, facilities and resources.
- O Do not respect the court; feel cases are not important.

Q. 67 Reasons why defense attorneys do not appear on trial.

- O Public defender is not available many times.
- O There are some predictable exceptions.
- O Court's fault. Not ready, must negotiate.
- O Poor scheduling. Not enough public defenders.
- O Conflict.
- O A few are chronic offenders in this regard.
- O Applies to Public Defender & S.A. probably because of shortage of staff.
- O Lack of court enforcement.
- O I don't know.
- O Various reasons.
- O Required appearance in other courts.
- O Certain individuals just seem to always be late.
- O Accept employment in too many cases.
- O Careless, and feel it doesn't matter.
- O Sometimes just plain tardy; they usually do not see the case until day of trial-fail to be present at docket call.

Q. 67 Continued

0 Other court appearances.

0 Lack of respect for court.

Q. 70 Reasons why defense attorneys do not appear in appropriate attire.

0 Any jacket & slacks; any type of hair; anything goes; no "dress code" prevails.

0 Sport coat & beards.

0 They are appropriately attired or don't get in court.

Q. 72 Reasons why defense attorneys are not adequately trained.

0 Lack of respect for the court.

0 Law too complicated for anyone to "know it all"; not enough time to prepare; specialties on the bench are needed (perhaps in 2 or 3 areas).

0 Because of the specialty of this particular division of the court ongoing training is absolutely necessary for all attorneys.

0 Really does not require that much training in District Courts. Firms usually send newest members to District Court for trials.

0 Some should have never been admitted.

0 Need trial advocacy seminars and workshops (including closed circuit t.v.)

0 There are a few exceptions from time to time.

0 Do not know procedure and rules. Will not take time to find out; expect judge, clerk to do work for them.

0 Who knows.

0 No pride; lack of research; wait for trial date to prepare.

0 Some attorneys just skim by on seat of their pants.

0 Most could use more training in rules of evidence and trial techniques.

0 Not aware of any training program by any Public Defender that attempts to teach new lawyers how to try a criminal case.

Q. 72      Continued

0 District Court is used to break in new Assistant State's Attorneys and Assistant Public Defenders.

0 They are usually new attorneys not acquainted with criminal proceedings.

Q. 74      Actions taken when defense attorneys do not show proper respect for the bench.

0 Private chambers warning.

0 Chamber talk.

0 Reprimand.

0 Usually a chambers conference, but if situation persists I will cite for contempt.

0 Lecture. Show Cause for contempt if necessary.

0 Take into chambers and problem discussed.

0 Reprimand and contempt when appropriate.

0 Contempt.

0 Slight admonishment and reminder to be courteous.

0 Verbal reprimand.

0 Discussion after case concluded in chambers.

0 Matter taken up in chamber.

0 Rarely happens, but I will warn attorney in court and speak with him in chambers.

0 Private conversation.

0 Private discussion in chambers.

0 Suggestion or public or private reprimand as indicated.

0 Usually chamber discussion.

0 Telephone them after court & discuss the problem.

0 Comments from bench or in chambers.

0 Verbal reprimand or make attorney wait until end of docket.

0 Personal reprimand.

Q. 74      Continued

- 0    Counsel privately with the Attorney.
- 0    Admonition to the attorney in chambers.
- 0    I call them to the bench first, then say something aloud second time.

Q. 76      Actions taken when defense attorneys are not prepared for trial.

- 0    Dismiss case.
- 0    I continue case to give the attorney time to prepare.
- 0    Advise senior member of firm or lawyer in private.
- 0    Taken into chambers and problem discussed.
- 0    Try to make certain lack of preparation does not adversely affect the right of defendant. Reprimand attorney.
- 0    Generally will inform attorney.
- 0    Usually discussion in chambers and reprimand.
- 0    Lecture.
- 0    Depends upon the problem.
- 0    Make required motions myself.
- 0    Have mentioned it in chambers.
- 0    Speak privately to individual in chambers.
- 0    Private conference in chambers.
- 0    Privately talk with them.
- 0    Admonition in chambers.
- 0    Discuss shortcomings in private in chambers after trial.
- 0    Chamber conference or bench conference.
- 0    Call them aside and speak to them privately.
- 0    Go on with case.

Q. 78 Actions taken when defense attorneys do not appear on time.

- 0 Private warning.
- 0 Chamber talk.
- 0 Reprimand.
- 0 Ask to apologize in open court and give reasons.
- 0 Contempt.
- 0 Reprimand.
- 0 Usually chambers conference, but if situation persists I cite for contempt.
- 0 Advise attorney in no uncertain terms that his tardiness has inconvenienced numerous others.
- 0 Discuss matter with attorney or his superior.
- 0 Either rule to show cause or discussion.
- 0 Private conference.
- 0 Reprimand.
- 0 Threat of contempt.
- 0 Reprimand.
- 0 Request from bench and a small contribution to charity.
- 0 Chambers meeting.
- 0 A chewing out, but in chambers.
- 0 Fine \$50.00 after contempt hearing.
- 0 Discuss with attorney.
- 0 Telephone them after court and discuss the problem.
- 0 Censure from bench or contempt proceeding.
- 0 Get letter agreeing to contempt conviction and \$200 fine if it occurs again.
- 0 Talk to attorney if he is late as a matter of policy.
- 0 Counsel privately with attorney.



Q. 78      Continued

- 0      Private conference in chambers.
- 0      Admonition in chambers.
- 0      Out of court admonition and contempt if he persists.
- 0      I call them the first time. If it persists then I say something aloud. This seems to work.
- 0      Warned at first in office.
- 0      Discuss privately with person.
- 0      Personal reprimand at chambers conference or bench conference.
- 0      Reprimand.
- 0      Speak to them privately.
- 0      Required to appear in open court; lectured; given reprimand; possible contempt citation.

Q. 80      Actions taken when defense attorneys do not appear in appropriate attire.

- 0      Admonished.
- 0      Telephone them after court and discuss the problem.
- 0      Censure from bench.
- 0      Personal reprimand.

Q. 82      Actions taken when defense attorneys are not well-trained.

- 0      No avenue for action.
- 0      Talk to attorney in chambers.
- 0      Conference with attorney and suggest continuing education. I also give a list of educational material in the specialty of the division.
- 0      I sort of take over when problem is acute.
- 0      Bite my lip.
- 0      Make required motions myself.

Q. 82 Continued

- O Private conference in chambers.
- O Conference in chambers.
- O Advise public defender.
- O Request supervisor to train better.

Q. 85 Reasons why the assistant public defender is not present in every criminal and traffic case where there is a possibility of incarceration.

- O No screening of jailable traffic offenses.
- O Staff inadequate. 1 Public Defender covers 2 courts.
- O But you have to wait until one is available.
- O Not all defendants want representation.
- O Panel, part time, but available.
- O Traffic court has one public defender for 5 courts.
- O They are not available immediately. There is a two week delay between application & representation.
- O Public Defender is not in court continuously. I would postpone case unless defendant waives counsel.
- O Many defendants do not want assistance of an attorney.
- O Not an adequate staff or budget.
- O Public Defender has declined to represent defendant but defendant because of financial condition can't hire a lawyer.
- O None in court unless retained prior to trial. Some defendants waive counsel.
- O I put Public Defender on serious trial if requested and on all criminal.
- O Defendant made no effort to obtain services of Public Defender.
- O Defendant's failure to request same.
- O None assigned.

Q. 85      Continued

- 0      Public defender claims lack of staff.
- 0      Most leave court early.

Q. 88      Reasons why the State's Attorney does not show proper respect for the bench.

- 0      Attitude of elected State's Attorney.

Q. 90      Reasons State's Attorneys are not prepared for trial.

- 0      Try to prepare on day of trial.
- 0      "Seat of the pants". Most don't see file until 1/2 hr. before court.
- 0      No time to prepare.
- 0      Do not have time to review the cases.
- 0      In most instances they are prepared.
- 0      Inexperience.
- 0      Too lazy to prepare case.
- 0      Only see cases on trial date.
- 0      Number of cases set for trial & they don't get cases soon enough.
- 0      Does not give enough time in advance of trial to interview witnesses.
- 0      Does not confer in advance with witnesses or defense counsel.
- 0      Casual attitude. Seldom is preparation undertaken. The Assistant sees the file for the first time minutes before court.
- 0      Don't review cases prior to trial.
- 0      Interview witnesses on trial date or not at all.
- 0      Assistants see case for first time on trial date.
- 0      They are part time in my county and don't have (or take) time.

Q. 90      Continued

- O    Don't seem to be overly concerned in most cases.
- O    1. Volume. 2. No opportunity before trial to confer with witnesses.
- O    Volume of workload, incompetence and indifference.
- O    Lack of adequate pre-trial contact with witnesses.
- O    Too many cases.
- O    Lack of time to prepare.
- O    Insufficient time given to interview witnesses.

Q. 92      Reasons State's Attorneys do not appear on time.

- O    Need time to prepare the day of the docket.
- O    Interviewing witnesses.
- O    Plea bargaining.
- O    Negotiating with defense attorneys.
- O    Interviewing of witnesses; plea bargaining; evaluating docket.
- O    They appear on time.
- O    Don't receive dockets soon enough.
- O    Trying to get case ready.
- O    Engaged in trial preparation and plea bargaining.
- O    Discussing cases with witness and opposing counsel for first time.
- O    They do not start interviewing witnesses until morning of trial; consequently do not appear at docket calls.
- O    Too busy.

Q. 94      Reasons State's Attorneys do not appear in appropriate attire.

- O    Anything goes, sports clothes, etc.

Q. 96      Reasons why State's Attorneys are not adequately trained.

- 0    Most have little or no trial experience. Seems to be "on the job" training.
- 0    Young.
- 0    Disorganized administration of State's Attorney's office.
- 0    Need trial advocacy seminars and workshops and emphasis on attitude. There is a need for Assistants to treat cases as important.
- 0    In need of training.
- 0    Just starting.
- 0    Young attorneys learning.
- 0    Attitude of elected State's Attorney. The District Ct. is treated as a training ground. As soon as experience is gained the assistant is reassigned.
- 0    No one takes time to train them. It is basically a part time office.
- 0    Most are political hacks of no real ability.
- 0    They are not given much orientation or training.
- 0    New State Attorneys are put in court before they are ready.

Q. 98      Actions taken when the State's Attorneys do not show proper respect for the bench.

- 0    Discussion in chambers.
- 0    Reprimand and contempt when appropriate.
- 0    Private discussion in chambers and on one occasion notifying State Attorney.
- 0    Personal conversation first, then report if needed.
- 0    Censure from bench or in chambers.
- 0    Verbal reprimand. This is usually in chambers, but sometimes in courtroom.

Q. 98      Continued

- O    I call them to the bench.
- O    I tell them the problem and what I expect.
- O    Reprimand.

Q. 100      Actions taken when State's Attorneys are not prepared for trial.

- O    Report to State's Attorney.
- O    Chamber talk.
- O    I talk to them after court.
- O    Talk to them in chambers.
- O    Reprimand in chambers.
- O    Generally will inform Asst. State Attorney. Infrequently I will go to the State Attorney. (Did it once).
- O    Usually discussion chambers and reprimand.
- O    Discuss after case in chambers.
- O    Discussion in chambers.
- O    If any taken we would never get through the docket.
- O    Bench discussion.
- O    Discussion in chambers.
- O    Discussion in chambers.
- O    Counseling.
- O    Private conference in chambers.
- O    Privately admonish them.
- O    Admonition in chambers. It would be useless to complain to the top man or his deputy.
- O    Discuss in chambers privately.
- O    Reprimand.
- O    Speak to them privately.

Q. 102

Actions taken when State's Attorneys do not appear on time.

- 0 Report to State's Attorney.
- 0 Chamber talk.
- 0 Reprimand.
- 0 Speak to attorney and/or superior.
- 0 Private talk.
- 0 Discussion in chambers.
- 0 By reminding the States Attorney that court must convene on time and that a recess can be taken later to prepare their case.
- 0 Reprimand.
- 0 If any taken we would never get through the docket.
- 0 Discuss with attorney.
- 0 Personal conversation first then report as needed.
- 0 Censure from bench or in chambers.
- 0 Verbal, in chambers.
- 0 Private conference in chambers.
- 0 Will threaten dismissal or not guilty.
- 0 I have been known to go on the bench and have them called in.
- 0 Chamber or bench conference. Personal reprimand.
- 0 Reprimand.
- 0 Verbal reprimand; threat of contempt citation.

Q. 104

Actions taken when State's Attorneys do not appear in appropriate attire.

- 0 Personal conversation first then report as needed.

Q. 106      Actions taken when State's Attorneys are not well-trained.

- 0    Complain to supervisors discreetly.
- 0    Talk to them in chambers.
- 0    Advise elected State's Attorney.
- 0    Mild suggestion to look at a particular statute or case on a given point of law.
- 0    Need again for training.
- 0    Bring him into chambers and tell him how to prove a case.
- 0    Personal conversation first, then report as needed.
- 0    None
- 0    Recommend (privately) appropriate CLE programs, if available.
- 0    Admonition in chambers. It would be useless to complain to the top man and his deputies.
- 0    Advise State's Attorney.
- 0    Request supervisor to give supplemental training.

Q. 108      Reasons why the State's Attorneys use the court for screening purposes.

- 0    Many cases should not be tried but because State's Attorney doesn't want to tell victims case is weak it is tried.
- 0    Preview the prosecuting witness in sex and robbery cases.
- 0    Attitude of elected State's Attorney.
- 0    Have not prepared the case prior to trial.
- 0    They feel that this is a proper function of the court.

Q. 110      Reasons why State's Attorneys try cases in District Court they would not try in Circuit Court.

- 0    Leave it up to the judge.
- 0    To satisfy police officers.



Q. 110      Continued

- 0 Felony cases with questionable searches are reduced to misdemeanors and tried in District Court.
- 0 For experience.
- 0 It just happens that way.
- 0 Easier to try. Also to satisfy complaining witnesses.
- 0 I guess they feel District Court judges more tolerant and understanding.
- 0 Expedience and politically feasible for State's Attorney.
- 0 In many instances cases are not prosecuted in the Circuit Court, if jury trial is prayed or if matter is appealed. Attitude of the State's Attorneys is that these cases are not important.
- 0 No screening.
- 0 The prosecutor attempts to satisfy the complaining witnesses in many cases where there is no prosecutorial merit.
- 0 Would be more aware of facts. I feel State's Attorney may not want to tell victim he can't get a conviction.
- 0 Feeling District Court is inferior court.
- 0 Shorter trial.
- 0 Often try a case in District Court for rapid disposition. Often amend down to our jurisdiction.
- 0 Quicker.
- 0 Can be tried at an earlier date.
- 0 Alleged overcrowded docket at the Circuit Court level.
- 0 Attitude of elected State's Attorney.
- 0 Occasionally a case is tried in District Court, which because of scheduling problems and crowded dockets wouldn't be tried in Circuit Court.
- 0 Trial will be sooner and probably the same sentence.

Q. 110      Continued

- 0    Because they are not always fully aware of the case and they do have a big case load.
- 0    It's not as important to them.
- 0    Lack of respect for our court. They wish to "wash case out" at lower level.

Q. 112      Reasons why State's Attorneys take a case to Circuit Court for trial that is routinely filed in District Court.

- 0    Need more preparation or are unfamiliar with case.
- 0    Don't know why.
- 0    Will not try manslaughter by moving violation because of publicity.
- 0    Because of City State Attorney Procedure.
- 0    In some cases wish to avoid District Court because aware that ruling will be adverse.

Q. 114      Reasons why State's Attorneys are not present in every criminal and traffic case where there is a possibility of incarceration.

- 0    Not required in certain cases.
- 0    All except driving revoked--the court does not require them.
- 0    Not used in traffic because State's Attorney chooses not to be present. Court acts as prosecutor which is improper.
- 0    There is no reason, he has plenty of help.
- 0    Two State's Attorneys for five traffic courts.
- 0    State's Attorney usually appears in traffic court only in the most serious cases.
- 0    Not enough.
- 0    This is improving; but there is a time problem in the rural areas.
- 0    We have only one Assistant State's Attorney assigned to our court; we have 2 courtrooms in operation.

Q. 114      Continued

- 0      No provision for serious traffic cases; only criminal.
- 0      One Assistant available whereas two traffic/criminal courts in session at same time.
- 0      Some serious cases are never prepared or known by State's Attorney.
- 0      Does not have staff to appear for traffic case unless requested by officer or citizen complainant.
- 0      Don't know.
- 0      They say not enough assistants.
- 0      Attitude of elected State's Attorney.
- 0      None assigned.
- 0      Lack of staff for District Court.
- 0      Not enough personnel to cover traffic.
- 0      State's Attorney prosecutes only the cases that he finds most serious.

Q. 116      Reasons for differences in treatment accorded the District Court and Circuit Court by local health departments.

- 0      Perspective is that District Court is "inferior" court.
- 0      Better in District Court because of several meetings each year.
- 0      I don't think District Court ranks as high in their mind.
- 0      Less respect.

Q. 118      Reasons for differences in treatment accorded the District Court and Circuit Court by the Probation Department.

- 0      Lack of respect. Lack of facilities.
- 0      Perspective is that District Court is "inferior" court.
- 0      Probation department assigns more competent agents to more serious cases at circuit court level.

Q. 118      Continued

- O I think we have more respect from Probation Department than does the Circuit Court.
- O Better in District Court because of several meetings each year.
- O We are not important to them.
- O I don't think District Court ranks as high in their mind.
- O Less serious crimes.
- O Less intense.
- O More prompt service.

Q. 120      Reasons for differences in treatment accorded the District Court and Circuit Court by the State Department of Parole & Probation.

- O Perspective is that District Court is "inferior" court.
- O Better in District Court as a result of several meetings each year.
- O I don't think District Court ranks as high in their mind.
- O Less respect.
- O Parole District Court Defendants sooner.

Q. 122      Reasons for differences in treatment accorded the District Court and Circuit Court by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

- O Perspective is that District Court is "inferior" court.
- O I think that we have more respect than does Circuit Court.
- O Have more respect for Circuit Court orders.
- O Better in District Court as a result of several meetings each year.
- O We are not important to them.
- O Less concern.

Q. 124      Reasons for differences in treatment accorded the District Court and Circuit Court by the State Department of Corrections.

Perspective is that District Court is "inferior" court.

0      Have more respect for Circuit Court orders.

0      We are not important to them.

0      Less concern and respect.

Q. 126      Reasons for differences in treatment accorded the District Court and Circuit Court by the local Department of Corrections.

0      Perspective is that District Court is "inferior" court.

0      Have more respect for Circuit Court orders.

0      We are not important to them.

0      More latitude in work release facilities.

Q. 128      Reasons for differences in treatment accorded the District Court and Circuit Court by the Public Defender.

0      De Novo appeal jury when jury trial actually not wanted.

0      Perspective that District Court is "inferior" court.

0      More Assistants are provided to Circuit Court and more experienced Assistants are assigned to Circuit Court.

0      More time given to clients in Circuit Court.

0      Often better prepared for Circuit Court cases due to comparable complexity, etc.

0      Weaker Assistants in District Court.

0      Circuit court cases tried by panel attorneys.  
District Court cases tried by staff attorneys.

0      Cases considered more serious in Circuit Court.

0      We are not important to them.

Q. 128      Continued

- 0    No advance preparation of cases.
- 0    Use panel attorneys in Circuit Court.
- 0    Staffing.
- 0    Apparently feel that more is at stake in Circuit Court.
- 0    Large volume in District Court precludes meticulous preparation.
- 0    More experienced Public Defender in Circuit Court.
- 0    Panels used in Circuit Court better Public Defender in Circuit Court.
- 0    More indifference. Do not get assignment until morning of trial-Preparation.
- 0    Staff attorneys in District Court, Panel attorneys in Circuit Court.

Q. 130      Reasons for the differences in treatment accorded the District Court and Circuit Court by State's Attorney.

- 0    Perspective that District Court is "inferior" court.
- 0    They feel that circuit court is somewhat (and somehow) more important.
- 0    District Court used for training of State's Attorneys.
- 0    Bias of State's Attorney against District Court.
- 0    More Assistants are provided to Circuit Court. More experienced Assistants assigned to Circuit Court.
- 0    Generally the better Assistants are removed to the Circuit Court.
- 0    More time given to client's in Circuit Court.
- 0    Often better prepared for Circuit cases, although of comparable complexity.
- 0    Less effort and preparation by far for District Court than Circuit Court.
- 0    New or weaker Assistant in District Court.

Q. 130      Continued

- 0    Assistant frequently poorly prepared (witnesses not summoned) in District Court.
- 0    District Court treated as step child. Never enough attorneys or trial preparation.
- 0    Cases considered more serious in Circuit Court.
- 0    They fear the Circuit Court judges.
- 0    We are not important to them.
- 0    No advance preparation of cases.
- 0    Staffing.
- 0    Apparently feel more is at stake in Circuit Court.
- 0    Large volume in District Court precludes meticulous preparation.
- 0    More experienced Assistants in Circuit Court.
- 0    They use District Court to train their attorneys in "on the job" training, but without supervision.
- 0    Better State's Attorneys are assigned to Circuit Court.
- 0    Although District Court Staff is very good, District Court is used as a training ground which I believe is appropriate.

Q. 136      Reasons why the sheriffs/constables do not perform adequately in providing security in the courtroom.

- 0    Not in our court.
- 0    It seems they are always "some place else".
- 0    At times I am left completely alone.
- 0    We do not have anyone in our courtroom.
- 0    Untrained.
- 0    None available for security purposes.
- 0    Not in courtroom Use other personnel than above.
- 0    No training as to firearms. No authority to carry weapons.

Q. 136      Continued

- 0    Sheriff claims he does not have sufficient deputies.
- 0    No security.
- 0    Sheriff not always present.
- 0    But not all courts are covered.
- 0    No training.
- 0    Better service out of some than others.
- 0    None assigned.
- 0    No training.
- 0    Not used primarily for security.

Q. 138      Reasons why the sheriffs/constables do not perform adequately in keeping the public awake.

- 0    They merely take people out to pay fines.
- 0    We do not have any in our courtroom.
- 0    Bailiff does so.
- 0    Bailiff's responsibility.
- 0    Not in courtroom. Use other personnel than above.
- 0    None assigned.

Q. 140      Reasons why the sheriffs/constables do not perform adequately in keeping love affairs to a minimum in the courtroom.

- 0    Bailiff does so.
- 0    None assigned.
- 0    None to keep at a minimum.

Q. 142      Reasons why the sheriffs/constables do not perform adequately in preventing eating in the courtroom.

- 0    I have to do this myself.
- 0    Bailiff does so.
- 0    None assigned.



Q. 144      Reasons why the sheriffs/constables do not perform adequately in preventing the reading of newspapers in the courtroom.

☐ Bailiff does so.

☐ None assigned.

Q. 146      Reasons why the sheriffs/constables do not perform adequately in enforcing a reasonable dress code in the courtroom.

☐ Only if nude.

☐ We have no dress code.

☐ Outrageous attire.

☐ Bailiff does so.

☐ Leave to judges.

☐ Not a problem.

☐ No dress code in force.

☐ Suggest not their function unless violation is serious.

☐ I handle this myself.

☐ Unless the court requires some action to be taken with respect to the attire of an individual, the sheriff takes none.

☐ No training.

☐ I do not know that such a code exists.

Q. 164      What should the increased criminal jurisdiction encompass?

☐ Everything except capital cases.

☐ More violent felonies.

☐ Everything. There should be one trial court.

☐ Include additional felony limits (theft) to \$1,000,000. Also include auto theft.

☐ All non-capital cases.

Q. 164

Continued

- 0 All non-capital cases.
- 0 Appeals from District Court - Review of Sentences.
- 0 The present jurisdiction plus a broadening of felony jurisdiction.
- 0 I would like to see 6 man juries and felony jurisdiction.
- 0 I have not thought much along these lines except to say that all but major felonies should probably be tried in the District Court.
- 0 All cases except jury trials. This should change when juries and facilities become available.
- 0 More felonies.
- 0 All crimes for which no jury trial is demanded and all jury trial misdemeanor cases.
- 0 All felonies except capital. All misdemeanors.
- 0 No opinion.
- 0 Same as Circuit Court, that is to say, one trial court.
- 0 All cases of common law offenses and statutory cases of up to 15 years.
- 0 All crimes not involving injury to a person.
- 0 Concurrent with Circuit Court on all felonies where imprisonment is not more than 10 years.
- 0 All non-jury, non capital offenses.
- 0 One trial level.
- 0 Drugs. Also those felonies which are now broken down to misdemeanors in order to remain in District Court.
- 0 All felonies, except certain specified; i.e. armed robbery, rape, murder.
- 0 Jury trial. Felony pleas.

Q. 164

Continued

- 0 Felonies.
- 0 All but those crimes which were previously referred to as capital in nature.
- 0 All non-Jury criminal cases.
- 0 All non-Jury cases except capital cases.
- 0 More non-Jury of all types.
- 0 Non-capital felonies.
- 0 This requires more time to consider than available at this time.
- 0 All but the most serious felonies.
- 0 All but major felonies.
- 0 General broadening of jurisdiction.
- 0 Unlimited.
- 0 All criminal cases, but not Jury trials.
- 0 Guilty pleas to any crime should be accepted and sentenced in the District Court.
- 0 6 Persons juries.
- 0 Crimes with sentences not exceeding 10 years.
- 0 Enlarge monetary limits in theft.
- 0 To try all matters except 9 common law felonies.
- 0 Juvenile.
- 0 All property crimes and all present jurisdiction.

Q. 170

What is the reason for unnecessary trips to other courts?

- 0 Judge assigned to fill a court without regard to caseload.
- 0 Lack of planning on the part of the District visited.
- 0 The requesting administrative judge does not do his job.
- 0 Have a continuing full work load in Court in District.

Q. 170      Continued

- 0    Lack of planning by administrative judge of District.
- 0    Improper assignments.
- 0    ~~Not~~ a real caseload.
- 0    Whoever asked for a judge failed to determine if a need for a judge actually existed. No effort made to handle caseload with existing judges.
- 0    Probably anticipated heavier docket which did not materialize.
- 0    Insistence of some administrative judges in keeping all courtrooms open without justification.
- 0    Poor scheduling of cases and failure to eliminate travel by moving judges within the District.
- 0    Lack of supervision by the Administrative judge. Failure to review all dockets of cases for trial on prior to day of "visit".
- 0    Request for help from courts when not needed.
- 0    Improper planning by requesting jurisdiction.
- 0    Failure to have the docket clerks determine need of judges and the unknown ability of assigned judges trial speed.
- 0    Poor planning.

Q. 172      Reasons why judges are not satisfied with the amount of leave received each year.

- 0    Jewish holidays should not be personal leave.
- 0    Executives with long service (private industry) get 6 weeks.
- 0    Not enough.

Q. 174      Reasons why judges are not satisfied with the time constraints under which leave has to be requested.

- 0    There should be some leeway so you can be a human being and not a number.
- 0    Need to request too far in advance.

- O Unknown so far in advance.
- O The administrative judge does not sit enough.
- O Very difficult to plan leave months or a year in advance.
- O Setting forth a vacation schedule one year in advance is extremely difficult.
- O Seems as though Baltimore City Judges get leave when requested and rest of us have to adjust to accomodate them.
- O It is difficult to project vacation dates a year in advance.
- O Should permit individual judges to work this out among themselves as long as each court is properly manned.
- O It is difficult to ascertain leave requirements one year in advance.
- O Scheduling leave for a year in advance is a burden because it involves guesswork and does not provide for spur of the moment trips and group trips not known about until after February.
- O Can't plan leave one year ahead.
- O How do you know in January what you want to do in summer or fall?
- O It is extremely difficult to map out vacation plans one year in advance.
- O Should be worked out within District and not through Annapolis.
- O Makes it difficult to plan so far ahead.
- O Too difficult to plan entire yearly schedule.
- O Need more flexibility.
- O Must request almost 6 months ahead to be sure of time.
- O Almost impossible to determine.
- O Difficult to plan.

Q. 174

Continued

- 0 Travel plans cannot always be made a year in advance.
- 0 I feel the docket problem should not be handled through a central office. Should be handled by individual district as this will cut down on substitutes.
- 0 Unreasonable burden.
- 0 Lead time too distant.

Q. 176

Reasons why judges are not satisfied with having to file a financial statement every year.

- 0 A "cheat" will find a way to cheat. Resent the invasion of privacy.
- 0 Violates right of privacy.
- 0 Discourages investments.
- 0 Right of privacy.
- 0 Pain in the ass. Many questions are an invasion of privacy.
- 0 A dishonest judge (we don't have any) wouldn't put down what he should.
- 0 Unreasonable intrusion into private matters.
- 0 News media can abuse the privilege of otherwise private and confidential information.
- 0 Should not be required. Total violation of right of privacy. Accomplishes no useful purpose.
- 0 A lot of nonsense.
- 0 It is personal and it serves no purpose. It is only window-dressing.
- 0 No one's business.
- 0 Truth and honor cannot be legislated.
- 0 The details are too cumbersome. If necessary I would not object to filing copy of tax return.
- 0 Not necessary.

Q. 176

Continued

- 0 Right to privacy.
- 0 The requirement is a farce.
- 0 Serves little purpose.
- 0 Judges are not supposed to be dishonest.
- 0 Rather file my tax return.
- 0 Not necessary.
- 0 Unreasonable burden.

Q. 178

Reasons why judges are not satisfied with the amount of clerical work they are called upon to do.

- 0 Landlord tenant cases are a great burden as too many steps involved.
- 0 Too many forms to be signed.
- 0 Too much paper work for judge when clerk could do much of signing.
- 0 Need additional clerical help.
- 0 Clerks should sign more papers.
- 0 Too much paper work.
- 0 Too much work of a type that could and should be delegated.
- 0 Should have more secretarial help.
- 0 Civil forms should be revised professionally.
- 0 Clerks should be available in courtroom to make all entries and make all notes.
- 0 Judge should not be required to do clerical work.
- 0 Clerical work could be accomplished with personnel.
- 0 I took the job to be a judge not to be paper shuffler. I did not attend secretarial school and good fingernails to remove paper staples is not in the Maryland Constitution as a qualification of a Judge.

Q. 178

Continued

- O We do not have adequately trained staff.
- O Signatures are required on unnecessary forms. All docket entries must now be made by judge.
- O Lack of proper, necessary and trained personnel.

Q. 180

Reasons why judges are not satisfied with the amount of handwriting they are required to do while on the bench.

- O No reason to write jury trial on each charge.
- O Landlord tenant cases a great burden - too many steps involved.
- O It takes too much time.
- O Too much signing.
- O Too damn much.
- O No time. It bogs down trials.
- O Too much writing by judge should be recorded by clerks.
- O If we wish to stop having the appearance of being Trial Magistrates we must stop acting like them. Circuit Court Clerks sign papers. Why not District Court Clerks?
- O Clerks should keep dockets.
- O District Court Judges should have same status as Circuit Court Judges. They do very little writing.
- O Making entries to have a complete record on the file is often time consuming especially in traffic cases where the same information has to be written on both the computer printout card and the file.
- O Clerks should make more entries.
- O Too much concern for statistical information.
- O Do too much.
- O Clerk should be clerk.
- O Much too much handwriting required. This detracts from judicial function.



Q. 180      Continued

- 0      Too much. Also the writing of other judges is hard to discern. Clerks generally write clearer.
- 0      Slows down disposal of cases.

Q. 182      Reasons why judges are not satisfied with the distribution of the workload among judges in the District.

- 0      Favoritism.
- 0      Varies too widely from location to location.
- 0      The administrative judge does not sit enough.
- 0      Do not have enough judges.
- 0      If we had one location per district we could distribute better.
- 0      Heavy court dockets do not afford sufficient time to try each case.
- 0      The court is not centralized. Work cannot be shifted.
- 0      Too few do too much.
- 0      Cannot discern a fair and equitable pattern.

Q. 186      What is the greatest source of satisfaction of District Court Judges?

- 0      Having public feel they got their day in court.
- 0      Opportunity to be an "agent of change". Personal effort put into innovating rehabilitation programs.
- 0      Professional accomplishment.
- 0      General service to the public.
- 0      I like the job.
- 0      I feel that I am doing an important service to the community.
- 0      Pension upon retirement.
- 0      Try to help defendants.
- 0      Sweeneyism.

- 0 Sense of service to public. Also a glimmer of hope to be a part of positive change to better the judiciary of this State.
- 0 I enjoy the office and its duties. It's a challenge.
- 0 I feel I am more suited to judicial than advocacy.
- 0 I think my fellow citizens are pleased with my performance and I enjoy this.
- 0 Knowing that I have the ability to do the job well. Probably better than 90% (my extreme modesty is also satisfying).
- 0 Criminal.
- 0 The work itself is most satisfying.
- 0 A sense of doing a worthwhile job well. A sense of contributing to something worthwhile.
- 0 The ability to work on problems close to "real" people. The effect that one can have on the condition of people.
- 0 A job well done.
- 0 The bench, the work, the people. It's a great job.
- 0 Feeling that everyone (as far as possible) has been given his day in court.
- 0 That I function as a trial judge.
- 0 Accomplishment of a necessary function in society.
- 0 Contribution to the public in administering justice.
- 0 The association and assistance given to each other.
- 0 The retirement benefits.
- 0 Contact with the community.
- 0 Sense of accomplishment.
- 0 Public service and a sense of accomplishment in my field.
- 0 Help to individuals who appear before the court, i.e. understanding and concern for them and their welfare.

- 0 Service to community and professional satisfaction.
- 0 Being able to settle disputes and being the front line of the judiciary for the people.
- 0 To give the defendant a fair trial and his day in court.
- 0 People are enjoyable. The human race has many pleasant and unexpected variables.
- 0 Doing a public service.
- 0 To have a case well presented from both sides.
- 0 Nothing in particular.
- 0 Trying a civil case. Listening to testimony and legal arguments and then being called upon to render a decision quickly.
- 0 Accomplishment of civic duty. Contribution toward a good judicial system.
- 0 Being a service.
- 0 Home with family in evenings and respect in the legal community.
- 0 Rendering a needed service to the community.
- 0 The people I work with as well as the opportunity to work with others.
- 0 Opportunity to actually help others who are in trouble.
- 0 Service to the public.
- 0 My day to day contact with the public and ability to assist people with problems. The feeling of satisfaction when a defendant returns to thank you for the time and effort you devoted to the case.
- 0 The ability to deal with the public in a capacity that reflects that "the system works".
- 0 Helping people who have been hurt and give them a chance to succeed better in life.
- 0 Personal satisfaction that I am doing a good job.
- 0 Public Service. Doing a job I enjoy very much.

- 0 I enjoy the position generally. I don't like sending people to jail and hearing minor traffic cases.
- 0 Trying to dispense justice.
- 0 Dealing with people and their problems in great volume.
- 0 I simply like the work.
- 0 No overhead; being before the public; keeping contact with the bar; and continuing education.
- 0 Helping the public understand the justice system and dealing with the public.
- 0 The many facets of the work.
- 0 Meeting the public.
- 0 I always wanted to be a judge. I enjoy the social work aspects.
- 0 Render community service.
- 0 Decision making.
- 0 Helping others.
- 0 Helping to give the community the feeling their court system is working.
- 0 That you serve a genuine role in your community affecting the personal lives of so many.
- 0 I feel that I am contributing to the administrative of justice.
- 0 Dispensing justice.
- 0 To determine a person's guilt or innocence after hearing all the facts.
- 0 Participation in the trial of cases.
- 0 Being a part of a legal community while not being a lawyer.

Q. 187

What is the greatest source of dissatisfaction of District Court Judges.

- 0 Protracted cases and not enough time to process the entire docket.
- 0 Sweenyism.
- 0 I dislike the position of the District Court as being a "second class" or "less qualified" Court.
- 0 We need one trial court; equal salaries; and to abolish de novo.
- 0 Shortage of secretarial assistance. I need clerk to assist me in working with social and mental health institutions.
- 0 De novo appeals.
- 0 A sense of impotency regarding de novo appeals.
- 0 Dissatisfaction with schedule.  
Lack of law clerks and secretaries.  
Not enough time.  
Dignity diminished.

Q. 209

In what ways are sentencing practices affected by appeal de novo?

- 0 Less stringent sentence to prevent appeal & request for jury trial.
- 0 This is the only important question. Plea bargaining destroys the whole system.
- 0 Sometimes I revoke bond and order PSI knowing that witnesses are leaving and trial de novo will result in acquittal.
- 0 A sentence which will create a question in defendant's mind as to whether to appeal.
- 0 I give maximum sentence to defendant. I feel circuit court can lower it if of that opinion.
- 0 Some consideration to crowded Circuit Court must be given.
- 0 If very heavy sentence invite appeal.
- 0 Need to consider de novo appeal since proper sentence might induce appeal and improper disposition.

Q. 209

Continued

- 0 Where 65% to 75% of defendants are better off taking an appeal, it has an effect on sentencing judge. Plea bargaining on appeal, reducing sentences, and crowded circuit court dockets all contribute.
- 0 Attempt to sentence to prevent appeal. I consider that sentence cannot be expanded.
- 0 I know that first offender DWI's will not be convicted upon appeal.
- 0 I take into consideration what I think the circuit court will do with my sentence.

Q. 211

Reasons why judges are in favor of split dockets.

- 0 Convenience to public.
- 0 Heavy caseload.
- 0 Numbers appearing at any session can be controlled. It eliminates long waits.
- 0 Keeps crowd down.
- 0 2 dockets at 9 & 1 works fine.
- 0 Better for the Judge and the defendant to try cases fresh.
- 0 Divides a day.
- 0 Avoids long hours of waiting.
- 0 Prevents congestion.
- 0 In heavy trial areas only.
- 0 Convenience.
- 0 Convenient to public.
- 0 Lack of adequate space for one docket.
- 0 Public convenience. It avoids the need for witnesses and defendants to spend whole day waiting.
- 0 Convenience to the public.
- 0 It is a better use of time.
- 0 Permits public to better arrange their schedule and not waste day waiting.

Q. 211      Continued

- 0      Fairness.
- 0      Convenience.
- 0      Avoids congestion in court facilities and loss of time.
- 0      More convenient.
- 0      Yes. It can get to you if not.
- 0      Convenience of public.
- 0      Relieves time pressure.
- 0      Equal distribution of caseload.
- 0      Convenience.
- 0      Public courtesy.
- 0      Yes as to traffic dockets because defendant and witnesses are kept in court for only 2 or 3 hours.
- 0      Public (our employers) spend less time sitting on hands.
- 0      Convenience.
- 0      Avoids congestion. It cuts back waiting time.
- 0      Split dockets for traffic only. Convenience not in favor for criminal. In civil too much wasted time.
- 0      Convenience. Better utilization of police; reduces crowded courtroom; more orderly trials.
- 0      Better crowd control.
- 0      Traffic only because it keeps lazy judges in court.
- 0      Less delay.
- 0      Avoids delay.
- 0      For traffic only it is more convenient.
- 0      Convenience of public.
- 0      Convenience of public. I despise having to make repeated opening statements but c'est la vie.

Q. 211

Continued

- 0 Traffic docket should be split between minor traffic and jailable traffic. Civil docket should be split between small claims and regular claims.
- 0 If caseload requires it, more convenient to parties; public; court personnel and supporting agencies.
- 0 Beneficial to public.
- 0 Speed.
- 0 A single docket requires people to wait too long before trial.
- 0 Better for public.
- 0 I like them for traffic. I prefer one docket for civil as you can arrange cases better.
- 0 Litigants not tied up all day. Sometimes the case is postponed.
- 0 Convenience. No waiting. Less congestion in court.
- 0 Beneficial to litigant as they don't have to wait as long for trial.
- 0 So people wouldn't have to wait long hours.
- 0 Lessens court time.
- 0 Less waiting time for litigants, police.
- 0 Keep people from staying in courts all day.  
Convenience.

Q. 212

Reasons why judges are not in favor of split dockets.

- 0 Most expect to spend day in court. Less backlog of docket when all witnesses are present at the same time.
- 0 Much wasted time between sessions.
- 0 Present system adequate.
- 0 Let judge run court by one docket each day.
- 0 Morning/afternoon o.k.
- 0 Judge should not sit continuously.



Q. 212      Continued

- 0    I believe dockets can be set so as to expedite.
- 0    Split docket gets more bench time.
- 0    Causes "dead-time" for court. Confusing to issuing troopers.
- 0    No shows and guilty pleas slow down docket.
- 0    Often creates gaps in hearings if earlier cases are continued.
- 0    Often A.M. docket breaks down early. Then judge must sit around with nothing to do waiting on P.M. docket.
- 0    Not as to criminal dockets because of possible overlap of cases within the specified time frame and possible idle time between dockets.
- 0    Expediency and reduction of time.
- 0    Difficult to set up calendars; frequently few cases on 9:00 A.M. docket. Time wasted between 9:30-11:00 A.M.
- 0    Two sessions a day are adequate.
- 0    Many times court is prepared to hear a case earlier than time set.
- 0    One docket runs into the other or there is a long period when courtroom is dark.
- 0    Too much delay because of frequent inability to predict number of persons who will appear for trial.
- 0    Traffic dockets are not that long. To split would tie up judge and personnel.

Q. 224      Reasons why judges are not satisfied with the District Court Rules.

- 0    Should be more akin with Maryland Rules.
- 0    Need more discovery in civil and criminal cases.
- 0    Some changes appear necessary from time to time.
- 0    Allowing interrogatories in place of oral examination in supplementary proceedings. Most judgment debtors can't read.

Q. 224

Continued

- 0 Should be merged and become a part of the Maryland Rules.
- 0 Should have more discovery.
- 0 Too many rules.
- 0 One set of rules for trial courts with few exceptions for District Court would be better.
- 0 Rules committee and Court of Appeals are not responsive.
- 0 Some rules could be clarified by amendment.
- 0 All rules should be same! That is Maryland Rules of Procedure.
- 0 Some areas need to be clarified. Civil defendants should not be given trial date until they request one.
- 0 We have no input as to changes. It is too cumbersome to make changes.
- 0 Should be made to conform more closely to Maryland Rules.
- 0 Not being provided a copy for personal reference from time to time.
- 0 Rules not complete or broad enough.

Q. 230

Causes of starting court late in criminal cases.

- 0 State's Attorneys and Public Defenders.
- 0 State not ready.
- 0 Call of docket.
- 0 Conferences with parties.
- 0 State not ready.
- 0 Plea bargaining and heavy docket.
- 0 Preparation time for State and Public Defender.
- 0 State's Attorney and Public Defender not ready.
- 0 State's Attorney and Public Defender not ready.

Q. 230      Continued

- 0      Guilty Pleas.
- 0      State and/or defendant counsel not prepared.
- 0      Counsel being late.
- 0      State's Attorney not ready.
- 0      State and Defense Attorney negotiating.
- 0      State not ready.
- 0      State needs more time to prepare.
- 0      Public Defender and State's Attorney.
- 0      Parties not ready.
- 0      State not ready. Attorneys don't contact State until day of trial.
- 0      State's Attorney preparing case.
- 0      State not ready.

Q. 231      Causes of starting court late in serious traffic cases.

- 0      State's Attorneys and Public Defenders.
- 0      Call of docket.
- 0      Conference with parties.
- 0      State not ready.
- 0      Heavy docket and defendants arriving late.
- 0      Preparation time for State.
- 0      State's Attorney and Public Defender not ready
- 0      Guilty Pleas.
- 0      Counsel being late.
- 0      State not ready.
- 0      State needs more time to prepare.
- 0      Parties not ready.

Q. 231      Continued

- 0      Officers not present.
- 0      State's Attorney preparing for case.
- 0      State not ready.

Q. 232      Causes of starting court late in minor traffic cases.

- 0      Police tied up. Litigants lost.
- 0      Conference with parties.
- 0      Heavy docket.
- 0      Waiting for officers and defendants to arrive.
- 0      Counsel being late.
- 0      Clerk not ready.
- 0      State not ready.
- 0      Officer late.

Q. 233      Causes of starting court late in regular civil cases.

- 0      Conference with parties.
- 0      Time used for clerk to prepare cases.
- 0      Counsel being late.
- 0      Calling the docket.
- 0      Discussions with attorneys.
- 0      Phone calls on civil and criminal matters.
- 0      Extensive docket call.
- 0      Counsel not present.
- 0      Public and attorneys very often late.

Q. 234      Causes of starting court late in small claims cases.

- 0      Conference with parties.
- 0      Usually on time.
- 0      Time needed for clerk to prepare cases.

Q. 234      Continued

- 0      Counsel being late.
- 0      Calling the docket.
- 0      Phone calls on criminal and civil matters.

Q. 265      Descriptions of plea bargaining abuses judges have observed.

- 0      Attorneys threaten jury trial or other delay tactics if not granted by State's Attorney.
- 0      Plea bargaining is main consideration.
- 0      Bargains entered into based solely on record of accused.
- 0      Young inexperienced defense counsel.
- 0      Not abuse, but State often bargains away a good case.
- 0      Plea bargaining of auto theft case because of threat of defendant to sue police officer who shot him in the leg.
- 0      Cases are plea bargained in District Court. Appeals are then taken on the guilty verdicts and a new "ball game" in Circuit Court on the lesser charge.
- 0      State's Attorney is too easy to convince.
- 0      Bargain often not entered into beforehand but at the trial table during the arraignment.
- 0      Only abuses of a time consuming nature.
- 0      In the sense only that there are times when I have not been persuaded the victim or the public understood why a "deal" was made. I ask if an explanation was given to victim.
- 0      State's Attorney bargains because he is not prepared, has no witnesses, etc.
- 0      Court was not given a defendant's complete prior criminal record. Wow, you should have seen what happened.
- 0      Used sometimes by State and Public Defender to "dump" cases in attempt to conclude docket early.
- 0      No prescribed rules for plea bargaining. It is hit or miss.

Q. 268     Reasons for "Stand up" trials in criminal cases.

- 0     Practice in Baltimore City.
- 0     Lack of space.
- 0     Because of courtroom facilities and number of cases to be handled by court.

Q. 270     Reasons for "Stand up" trials in serious traffic cases.

- 0     Accepted practice.
- 0     Time factor.
- 0     Speed.
- 0     Space and location.
- 0     Speed.
- 0     Not sufficient spaces or to move heavy docket.
- 0     Facilities.
- 0     Tradition.
- 0     Few cases.
- 0     Because of the courtroom facilities and number of cases.

Q. 272     Reasons for "Stand up" trials in minor traffic cases.

- 0     Volume.
- 0     Accepted practice.
- 0     Time involved does not require "sit down".
- 0     Time factor.
- 0     Speed.
- 0     Heavy dockets.
- 0     Volume type and length of trial does not require sit down trial
- 0     They just are. It moves quick.
- 0     Expediency. Because of courtroom facilities and number of cases.
- 0     Regular traffic.

Q. 272

Continued

- 0 Expedites trial.
- 0 Volume.
- 0 Few cases.
- 0 Very rarely with extraordinary heavy dockets.
- 0 Speed.
- 0 No facilities, plus speed.
- 0 Not sufficient space or to move heavy dockets.
- 0 Volume.
- 0 Volume.
- 0 Tradition.
- 0 No chairs set up.
- 0 Volume requires that time be utilized efficiently.
- 0 Becuase of courtroom facilities and number of cases.

Q. 274

Reason for "stand up" trials in regular civil cases.

- 0 Accepted practice.

Q. 276

Reasons for "stand up" trial in small claim cases.

- 0 None.
- 0 Accepted practice.

Q. 283

Reasons for the unsatisfactory job performed by the administrative judge of the court.

- 0 He just "fluffs-off".
- 0 Little leadership and no trained staff.
- 0 The job is not being done. Period!
- 0 No administrative or managerial background.
- 0 Not enough control over clerks, commissioners and ancillary non-judicial personnel. Too much weight given to police scheduling. Insufficient time devoted to administrative responsibilities.

Q. 284

Reasons for the "poor" administration of the District Court on a statewide basis.

- O Lack of input from judges. Suggestions of only a select few are considered.
- O Employee morale is low. Most not qualified, so confused, insecure and anxious.
- O Inadequate concern for problems peculiar to my District and its judges.
- O Excessive out-of-district assignments of judges.
- O Individual problems of each district needs individual attention and not statewide rules.

Q. 289

Reasons why the Maryland Judiciary is not held in low esteem.

- O Who cares.
- O Public confuses function with Dept. of Parole and Probation. News media gives bad impression.
- O I receive very good reception when I am out in public.
- O Do not disagree with statement but disagree with reported findings.
- O I am aware of the Cohen-Hollander report. They interviewed less than 6 people in our district. I do not feel we are held in low esteem.
- O Not indication in my county.
- O Maryland Judiciary no different than others.
- O Public lack of knowledge of law and our ability to inform public.
- O Poor polling.
- O Comments by citizens generally favorable. Complaints few.
- O I have no respect for polls. Questions can be asked in a manner to get any answer you want.
- O I agree but feel that they dislike all judges not only those in Maryland.
- O Press is not fair.
- O I have no idea what most recent polls indicate, so can't agree or disagree.





